

Message Text

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42

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 AID-05 /090 W

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P R 271100Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2055

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

UNCLAS LUSAKA 1640

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, PINT, RH, SF, ZA

SUBJECT: VICTORIA FALLS TALKS SUSPENDED

REF: LUSAKA 1629

1. SUMMARY: VICTORIA FALLS BRIDGE TALKS WERE SUSPENDED AUGUST 26 FOLLOWING FAILURE TO AGREE ON GUARANTEE OF IMMUNITY FOR ALL ANC NEGOTIATORS TO PARTICIPATE IN CONSTITUTIONAL TALKS WITHIN RHODESIA. WHILE RHODESIA PREMIER IAN SMITH SAYS TALKS HAVE FAILED AND THAT HE NOW WILL SEEK "SETTLEMENT" WITH RHODESIA BLACK LEADERS OUTSIDE ANC, BOTH PRESIDENT KAUNDA AND SAG PREMIER VORSTER HAVE EXPRESSED OPTIMISM THAT CONTINUED EFFORTS WILL BE SUCCESSFUL IN KEEPING TALKS ON THE TRACK. END SUMMARY.

2. BRIDGE TALKS WERE SUSPENDED AUGUST 26 WITH NO DATE SET FOR RESUMPTION. PRINCIPAL STICKING POINT IS GUARANTEE OF IMMUNITY IN RHODESIA FOR ANC LEADERS, A UNCLASSIFIED

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GUARANTEE WHICH SMITH UNWILLING TO EXTEND TO ANC EXILES

SUCH AS N. SITHOLE AND CHIKEREMA. BISHOP MUZOREWA TOLD PRESS ANC READY NEGOTIATE INSIDE RHODESIA ONCE THAT AGREEMENT REACHED ON ALL OTHER ASPECTS OF A DECLARATION OF INTENT TO NEGOTIATE A CONSTITUTIONAL SETTLEMENT WHICH APPROVED BY KAUNDA AND VORSTER. ACCORDING TO THIS DOCUMENT, ONCE AGREEMENT REACHED RHODESIA CABINET SECRETARY JACK GAYLARD AND ANC SECRETARY GENERAL DR. GORDON CHAVUNDUKA WOULD ARRANGE WITHIN SEVEN DAYS MEETING IN SALISBURY OF NOMINATED REPRESENTATIVES CHOSEN RESPECTIVELY BY GOVERNMENT OF RHODESIA AND ANC TO DISCUSS IN DETAIL ALL ASPECTS OF CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES AND ESTABLISH SUB-COMMITTEES TO CONSIDER AND REPORT TO PLENARY MEETING ON THESE ASPECTS OF THE CONSTITUTION. THE DOCUMENT ALSO SETS OCTOBER 31 AS DATE FOR COMPLETING THESE NEGOTIATIONS. A FINAL CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE WOULD BE HELD OUTSIDE RHODESIA (LONDON UNDERSTOOD) TO RATIFY NEW CONSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS AGREED UPON. MUZOREWA ACCUSED SMITH OF "TOPEDOING" TALKS BY REFUSING TO AGREE TO IMMUNITY ISSUE AND SAID ANC NOW PLANS ASK KAUNDA AND VORSTER TO BRING PRESSURE ON SMITH TO ACCEPT GRANTING OF IMMUNITY TO ALL ANC NEGOTIATORS SO THAT PRELIMINARY WORK IN COMMITTEES CAN BEGIN INSIDE RHODESIA.

3. RHODESIA PREMIER IAN SMITH IN STATEMENT IN SALISBURY TO PARLIAMENT AND SUBSEQUENT BROADCAST TO NATION EVENING AUG. 26, IS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID THAT SINCE NO AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED WITH ANC HE NOW "INTENDS TO HOLD CONFERENCE TO WHICH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE COUNCIL OF CHIEFS AND OF OTHER AFRICAN ORGANIZATIONS WHO HAD INDICATED THEY WANTED ATTEND WOULD BE INVITED." WHILE BLAMING ANC FOR REFUSING TO ABIDE BY PRETORIA AGREEMENT AND DEMANDING IMMUNITY FOR ANC EXILES, SMITH PRAISED CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY VORSTER AND KAUNDA.

4. PRESIDENT KAUNDA IN POST-TALKS PRESS CONFERENCE IN LIVINGSTONE SAID THERE WAS STILL HOPE OF FINDING PEACEFUL SOLUTION AND THAT VORSTER AND HE WOULD BE TAKING STEPS "WITHIN NEXT TEN DAYS OR SO" TO
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RESOLVE OUTSTANDING ISSUES. HE SAID GOOD START HAD BEEN MADE AND THAT ALTHOUGH ANC WAS PREPARED TO ACCEPT SMITH'S ASSURANCE OF SAFETY FOR FREEDOM FIGHTERS PARTICIPATING IN COMMITTEE TALKS INSIDE RHODESIA "AN UNDERTAKING WAS REQUIRED FROM MR. VORSTER TO STRENGTHEN THIS ASSURANCE". KAUNDA TOLD PRESS UPON RETURN TO LUSAKA AFTERNOON AUGUST 26 THAT IT APPEARED SMITH COULD NOT RPT NOT GIVE IMMEDIATE ASSURANCE ON THIS POINT TO ANC BEFORE

CONSULTING HIS COLLEAGUES IN SALISBURY FOR COLLOCTIVE
DECISION. KAUNDA APPEALED FOR CALM, PATIENCE AND
UNDERSTANDING FROM BOTH SIDES.
WILKOWSKI

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